



COUNTY OF KAUAI

**KAUAI POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**News Release**

For Immediate Release: October 17, 2017

---

DARRYL PERRY, CHIEF  
Tel (808) 241-1600  
Fax (808) 241-1604

---

**KPD warns public about letter scam**

LĪHU'E – Kaua'i police are warning the public to be aware of a financial letter scam being circulated to Kaua'i residents.

Kaua'i Police Chief Darryl Perry recently received a fraudulent letter claiming that his distant relative in Spain had died and left a safe deposit box containing \$7.8 million.

"The letter goes on to explain that I could inherit half of the money if I make a claim for its contents," stated Police Chief Perry. "We want the public to be aware of this scam and others like it, and know how to guard against falling victim."

Many financial scams promise the victim a large payout, but only after he or she wire transfers money to the requestor, supposedly to cover taxes or processing fees.

Some con artists use simple requests via letter, e-mail or popular social networking sites, while others develop a more in-depth relationship with a victim over a period of time.

Kaua'i police are reminding residents to use the following scam prevention tips:

- Do not answer or return calls from unknown numbers.
- Use caution when responding to unsolicited calls or e-mails, or unknown individuals on social networking sites.
- Check your bank, credit card and phone statements regularly. If you see an unknown or unauthorized charge, immediately notify your bank or service provider.
- If it sounds too good to be true, it usually is.

- Senior citizens are popular targets for scam artists as they tend to be more trusting of unknown individuals. Responsible family members should help to keep them safe.

“Above all else, never give your personal or financial information to someone you don’t know,” warned Police Chief Perry. “Once you give money to a con artist, it is very unlikely you will get it back.

If you suspect a scam, please call the Kaua‘i Police Department at 241-1711 and file an official police report.

###